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July 21, 2007

Date

Gene D. Fleischhauer

Depositor's Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Robert B. Parrish et al.
Serial No.: 10/720,610
Filed: November 24, 2003

) Date: July 26, 2007
) Before the Examiner Phasge
) Confirmation Number 4245
) Group Art Unit: 1753
) Atty. Docket EH-10266A

Title: METHOD FOR ELECTROCHEMICALLY TREATING ARTICLES AND APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CLEANING ARTICLES

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
PO BOX 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This Response is responsive to the Communication dated June 27, 2007 imposing a restriction requirement on claims pending in the application, that is, claims 13-21. The restriction requirement required a restriction between group I (claims 13-18), and group II (claims 19-21). Group I is elected by this response for prosecution with traverse.

The traverse is made on the grounds that a search for art relating to claims 13-18 directed to an apparatus for rinsing will be in search locations which will most likely uncover pertinent art relating to claims 19-21 directed to a method for rinsing. Accordingly, it is believed that a search for the claims directed to the method for rinsing would not be unduly burdensome and the restriction requirement should not extend to these claims, as directed in MPEP §803. In addition, it is likely that the most pertinent art for the apparatus will be found in the same place for the remaining method claims. In particular, please note that the rinsing cell apparatus has an opening into a rinsing chamber and a guide member (for tubing to be rinsed) extending toward the opening. The method includes moving the tubing to the rinsing chamber and over a locating pin in the rinsing chamber. Practicing the method requires that an opening exist to provide access to the rinsing chamber. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement.

Respectfully Submitted,

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